

PROCLAMATION

Public education is the cornerstone of American democracy. The School, perhaps more than any other one factor, has served as the principal unifying force in America.

Our schools, beginning with the "little red schoolhouse", have made us one, - blending age-old contrary cultures into the harmonious ideals of a new world. From the mingled blood and traditions of every race and clime, the American school system is evolving a people whose interests and loyalty and ideals are the same.

That every child, irrespective of the circumstances of its birth, is entitled to school opportunities, has been the steadfast belief of our people since the nation's founding. The success of our form of government depends upon an intelligent citizenry, and, firm in this belief, our country has established and continuously improved, a system of free public education. Without education, a democratic government could not exist. Any threat to our schools, is a threat to our form of government. The future of our democracy is most vitally dependent upon the education of our people.

In the stress of these emergency years, when our schools have been seriously handicapped in many communities, it is fitting that parents, teachers and other citizens earnestly consider the relation of SCHOOL AND DEMOCRACY.

Now, therefore, I, Tom Berry, Governor of the State of South Dakota, acting in conjunction with the governors of other states, the National Education Association, the United States Office of Education, and the American Legion, do hereby proclaim the week of November 11 - 17 as

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

AND I do respectfully urge that parents and other citizens visit the schools, and acquaint themselves with the work that is being done in preparing citizens of tomorrow to meet the challenge of the future to Democracy.

Dated at Pierre, this 6th day of November, 1935.

Tom Berry
Governor

ATTEST

Myrtle Morrison
SECRETARY OF STATE

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